Nippon Times

No. 16,539 (THE 20th YEAR of SHOWA) TOKYO, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 1945 第三種郵便物認可 昭和十五年十二月二十七日 Price 25 Sen

ANTI-AXIS FORCES MAKE CONTACT EAST OF RUHR

Link-up Near Lippstadt Reported; Germans Determined to Resist to Last

Special to the Nippon Times

ZURICH, April 2.—General Dwight Eisenhower's communique yesterday reported the link-up of the anti-Axis forces near Lippstadt east of the Ruhr.

Germans Determined

Domei

BERLIN, April 2.—Ten days have now elapsed since General Dwight Eisenhower started a new major offensive across the Rhine against the heart of Germany. Until now the slowing down of the Anglo-American advance eastward can hardly be recorded although some of the far advanced tank spearheads have been cut off and annihilated. Most typical case was the annihilation of the tank spearhead which had started from Aschaffenburg and advanced as far as Lohr and Gemuenden. Putting out of action some of these American tank hordes shows nevertheless that the German determination to resist to the utmost has not melted away in any way in the face of the enemy's indisputable dramatical successes.

It may rather be predicted that the still unbroken German defense, may, together with the supply problems of the American tank armies which is bound gradually to become ever more acute, bring about a relative stabilization of the German west front within the next few days.

Difficulties Seen

Until now it has above all been the tank forces of Generals Patton and Hodges which were able to advance deep into Westphalia and Hessia as far as Bielefeld and Kassel. Although the Allied supreme command will undoubtedly do everything possible to provide and supply provisions to the mobile formations by land and especially by air route, this involves considerable difficulties in any case. Along with the vast amount of fuel needed continuously for the tank divisions it will become difficult with the length of supply lines constantly increasing. The German troops will take advantage of the inevitable Anglo-American breathing spell and slowing down of the enemy's advance to organize their new defense line.

The entire Ruhr district which the enemy is trying to encircle with sweeping pincer movements which have reachd the Soest-Lippstadt area from the south, has been turned into one vast position during the past days and hours. The German formations holding this area are exploiting every advantage offered by the densely populated areas.

General Eisenhower will still have to employ large reserves of men and material to come even a little closer to realize his operational aim of taking possession of the German industrial Ruhr district.

Counterattacks by the German troops against the Americans pressing toward the east led to severe fighting in eastern Netherlands west of Teutoburg forest in Eder valley between Fulda and Wera, in Spessart as well as in the hilly country between Tauber valley and the upper Rhine plain during the past 24 hours. The enemy was able to advance only under perceptible losses. The British formations spreading fanlike on the lower Rhine near Emmerich as well as between the German-Netherlands border and in the northwest foothills of Teutoburg forest. South of Muenster which is still in the German hands the American army pushed strong forces in the triangle between Dormund Ema canal and Lippe.

Heavy Fighting Develops

Heavy fighting developed south of the motor highway near Beckam. The main thrust carried out against the southern part of the Teutoburg forest by by-passing Gueterloh was repulsed on either side of Bielefeld. The second thrust aimed at the lower Lippe river against which formations of the 1st American army near the Soest and Paderborn (the latter being in American hands) area are pushing from the south. General Patton's spearheads of the 3rd American army are attacking toward the area of Eisensch where they are engaged in heavy fighting with the local German troops. Near Kassel 30 American tanks were shot up within a few hours.

B-29's Make Scout Flights

Ten B-29 bombers made separate reconnaissance flights over the Kinki, Tokyo, Kanto, Hiroshima, Kochi, Matsuyama, and Seto Inland Sea areas between 9 a.m. on Monday and 2 a.m. the following day. Five of these enemy planes appear to have dropped mines into the Seto Inland Sea.

U.S. Will Not Give Arms to China Reds, Says Envoy Hurley

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 2.—Patrick Hurley, American Ambassador to Chungking who is now in Washington, today ruled out any possibility that the United States might deliver arms to the Chinese Communist Party which he described as an "armed political party," according to a Washington dispatch. Hurley said that furnishing arms to any armed political party would be tantamount to the recognition of another belligerent by the United States. He said that the United States recognizes and supports the Chungking Government in China.

GRAVE INTERNAL CRISIS IS HARASSING CHUNGKING

Yenan's Disturbances Force Chiang Kai-shek to Oppress Political Activities

Domei

CANTON, April 2.—Faced with a crisis in its present internal political problems, Chungking's suppressive measures against other factional elements are now being watched with keen interest by well-informed circles here as various internal and foreign complications have come in the way of Chungking's plane to set up a constitutional government.

These circles state that with the activities of the Chungking Kuomintang Party not only further alienating Chungking from Yenan but bringing to the fore imminent disturbances, the attention of various circles in Chungking has now turned from the urgent military reconstruction field and focussed again on the political field.

Of special significance, these circles continue, is the recent attitude of the Kuomintang which has gradually changed its past transcendent attitude against various factions within the country to one of forcing its will in the form of political oppression in a feverish attempt to solve the intricate internal problem. In the meantime, these circles say, Yenan has succeeded in spreading its influence into spheres under the Kuomintang influence.

However, the Kuomintang Party continues to hold sway in the political nerve center of warring Chungking, although slow progress has been made in the realization of the new order through the reorganization of regional administration together with measures for elaboration of the party organism. Thus, Chungking with the exception of distant districts has already established provincial and municipal hsien and village provisional assemblies which are recognized as the people's representative organ within 18 provinces and one municipality.

The control of regional administration is a step taken toward the materialization of its so-called constitutional form of government. However, these circles stress, one must not forget that behind this course taken by the Kuomintang Party lies hidden Chiang Kai-shek's ambition for domination of the whole country and that the democratic principles which had been advocated for the Kuomintang have been completely discarded.

In other words, these well-informed circles say, the Kuomintang has become an exclusive autocratic party and plans to eliminate all other factional elements and thus monopolize warring China. They continue that, therefore, a basic readjustment of relations between the Kuomintang and Yenan will be practically impossible. Although subject to strong Anglo-American pressure in this respect, Chiang Kai-shek has from time to time made clear to the Anglo-Americans that an efficient structure of resistance lies only in the Kuomintang faction and that without the Three People's Principles and the Kuomintang there can be no resistance.

Simultaneous with the announcement of his plan to set up a constitutional form of government, Chiang again laid special emphasis on this point. Therefore, the Kuomintang led by Chiang is now moving away from its past negative and exclusive character to that of an aggressive autocracy, these circles concluded.

To Ask Canada for Food

Domei

LISBON, April 2.—British Minister of Foods John Llwellin and Minister of Production Oliver Lyttelton arrived in Ottawa, according to a London radio broadcast today. The two Ministers will negotiate with the Canadian Government on the food situation in Britain and for possible Canadian relief measures, the broadcast said.

POSTPONEMENT IS SEEN OF SAN FRANCISCO TALKS

British Press Voice Possibility of Step— New 'Big 3' Meeting Seen Needed

Domei

STOCKHOLM, April 2.—Possible postponement of the forthcoming United Nations Conference on International Organization scheduled to convene at San Francisco on April 25 is being indicated by British newspapers including the Daily Sketch and the Yorkshire Post, according to advices from London.

The Yorkshire Post is quoted to have declared today that it would not be unnatural if the San Francisco Conference should be postponed, adding that in view of the developments in the European War situation, it would be difficult for Deputy Prime Minister Clement Attlee and Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden to leave London.

While the British authorities are making preparations on the assumption that the parley will be convened on schedule, the Foreign Office authorities were quoted today to the effect that both Eden and Attlee will not be able to take part in the conference throughout its sessions but will most probably have to leave San Francisco before it is over because they have important jobs in London.

Meanwhile, the failure of the Soviet Government to have Foreign Commissar Vyacheslav Molotov represent the Soviet Union at the San Francisco parley and the appointment in his place of the Soviet Ambassador to Washington as the Soviet delegate has provoked considerable repercussion in London political circles.

Vernon Bartlett, a member of the House of Commons, writing in the News Chronicle, stated that the absence of Foreign Commissar Molotov from the San Francisco Conference was the Kremlin's gesture of dissatisfaction over the way in which the Soviet-Polish controversy was solved.

The United States Government's claim of three votes in the international peace machinery was also received with surprise by London as witnessed by a United Press report from London to the effect that worried over the American-British-Soviet relations in connection with the San Francisco Conference, the British Foreign Office authorities contend that another meeting among Prime Minister Winston Churchill, President Franklin Roosevelt and Premier Josef Stalin will be necessary.

Preliminary Talks Open

Domei

LISBON, April 2.—A pre-San Francisco conference of the United States, Great Britain, the Soviet Union and France was slated to be held in Washington from yesterday, at which discussions relative to the control and administration of the various areas under Japanese, German and Turkish control will be taken up, according to a Washington report.

No reference is expected to be made as to various problems concerning French Indo-China and the Anglo-American colonial possessions. The representatives of these four countries to the United Nations Conference on International Organization at San Francisco will in all likelihood participate in these talks.

French Representatives Named

Representatives to the forthcoming United Nations Conference on International Organization at San Francisco of the De Gaullist regime were announced yesterday as Georges Bidault, Foreign Minister, Rene Pleven, Finance Minister, Health Minister Billoux and Paul Boncour, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Inquiry Congress, according to a Paris dispatch.

Conference Seen Threatened

The possible cessation of the European War in the next three weeks and the Big Three disagreement on the constitution of the Polish government are threats to the success of the San Francisco Conference, according to a special article in the Sunday New York Tribune, according to a New York dispatch. If the European War ends before April 25, the European Powers will devote immediate attention to the occupation and administration of Germany, the article said. This is believed to be the reason of the Soviet Union not sending Foreign Commissar Vyacheslav Molotov to the San Francisco conference. The Soviet request to invite the Lublin Warsaw Government to San Francisco has been turned down by Britain and the United States. Delegates from small and medium countries at the conference will be troubled by the absence of Poland.

Misgivings Are Expressed

Misgivings about the effect of the Soviet's and the United States' projected request for three seats each on the assembly of the new security organization were expressed by the Manchester Guardian in its editorial yesterday, according to a London dispatch.

"This proposal is not quite so serious or so objectionable in itself as some critics have declared—we ourselves cannot be too comfortable about India—," the paper said, "but its effects on public opinion and on smaller nations are already strong."

The editorial asked, "What will they think when the Soviet Union and the United States in addition to obtaining complete monopolistic powers now propose to extend their 'Charter' into the assembly? And why only the Soviet Union and the United States?"

LCI-974 LOSS ANNOUNCED

U.S. Navy Dept. Admits Sinking Of Landing Craft

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 2.—The loss of the LCI-974 in the Philippines area as a result of Japanese action was announced today by the U.S. Navy Department, according to a Washington dispatch.

The vessel was a small infantry landing craft, converted into a gunboat and normally carried a crew of 30, the dispatch said. The Navy Department gave no indication of the number of casualties, but said that the next of kin had been informed.

The sinking of the vessel brought to 278 the announced number of navy craft sunk, overdue and presumed lost or destroyed to prevent capture since the start of the war, the dispatch said.

The LCI-974 was built by the Consolidated Steel Corporation of Orange, Texas, and was commissioned last May 1. It was 157 feet long, the dispatch concluded.

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 2.—Major General James E. Chaney has assumed duty as commander of Yiojima, and Brigadier General Ernest M. Moore has been assigned to command all aircraft of all services based on the island, a Guam report said today.

Soviets May Not Attend 'Frisco Meeting; U.S. Stand Seen Firmer Toward Moscow

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 2.—Nasrullah Itezam, Foreign Minister of Iran, has resigned from office and will not represent Iran at the world security conference at San Francisco, a Tehran dispatch said today. Taghi Zadeh, Iran Ambassador to London, who was also a delegate to attend the meeting has also declined to go, the report added.

Domei

LISBON, April 2.—With the American-British-Soviet relations becoming critically strained following the rejection by Britain and the United States of Moscow's demand for the Provisional Polish Government's participation in the San Francisco Conference to be convened on April 25, diplomatically well-informed circles now fear not only that the San Francisco Conference may not be convened on schedule but even presuppose possible secession of the Soviet Union from the parley. In this connection, a New York dispatch quotes an AP correspondent in Washington, John Hightower, to the effect that because London and Washington have decided firmly to reject Moscow's demand for Polish participation in the conference, the Kremlin might possibly use threat of its secession from the talks as a trump card.

Representation for Poland at the San Francisco Conference has opened a controversy since the disclosure that the Soviet Union had requested and Britain and the United States had vetoed an invitation for the present Warsaw Provisional Government. The Soviet action was based on a supposed possibility that the organization of the Polish National Unity Government might not be achieved in time for Poland to have any part in the conference. Should it appear in the next few days that this might be done with additional time, the opening date of the conference may be delayed two weeks beyond April 25.

Washington officials show little inclination at the moment, however, to favor a prolonged postponement.

A British Foreign Office spokesman said that the Soviet proposition was out of the question, and a U.S. State Department official termed it as unacceptable. That apparently passed the next move back to the Soviet Government with the possibility of prolonged debate to a Soviet threat to withdraw from the conference.

All indications are that both London and Washington have decided firmly against yielding to Moscow in this case.

Moscow Reveals Agreement

Domei

MOSCOW, April 2.—The question revolving around the three vote demand by the Soviet Union in the new international organization together with the participation of Poland at the United Nations Conference on International Organization and the demand from the United States for three votes had foreshadowed the outlook of the conference, but, breaking the silence which it had hitherto maintained, the Soviet Government declared on April 2 that the United States and Britain had given consent to the participation of Ukraine and White Russia at the forthcoming San Francisco Conference at the time of the Crimea Conference and in return for Soviet agreement to the three vote demand of the United States, according to a Tass report.

Both Britain and the United States further agreed to the independent participation of the republics of Ukraine and White Russia, the report revealed.

U.S. Firmer Toward Soviets

Rejection of the Soviet request for an United Nations Conference on International Organization (UNCIO) invitation to the present provisional Polish Government, now functioning at Warsaw, was interpreted by some American Senators as marking the possible emergence of a firmer American policy toward the Soviets, according to a Washington dispatch.

Senator George of Georgia made the following remarks: "In view of the enormous sacrifices that the United States has made in both men and money and in view of the support we have given the United Nations in this great struggle without any desire for indemnity, the time is certainly at hand when we should say plainly that our decisions in the program being shaped for the postwar world are entitled to full consideration."

Chairman Conally of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and delegate to San Francisco, also applauded the State Department's action.

Senator Hill of Alabama said he thought the Yalta agreement on the Poles "should be carried out in letter and spirit."

PRIME MINISTER TO HEAD NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS

Plans to Effect Speedy Formation of 'Storm Force' Decided by Cabinet

The Prime Minister will be the chief of the National Volunteer Force, it was decided at the Cabinet meeting held on Monday. The decision was reached in order to establish swiftly and powerfully the organization of the force for the perfection of the nation's defenses in view of the enemy invasion of the Okinawas.

As Commander-in-Chief (a temporary title, the real title to be decided later), the Prime Minister personally will be the overall commander of the force, thus giving it a character of a national storm force.

The decision reached at the Cabinet meeting also provided for the swift establishment in the regions of a structure united with the central structure. Concrete organizations compatible with the composition of the various regions are to be built up under the command of the governors.

By the establishment of the National Volunteer Force, all existing bodies will be dissolved and absorbed into it. It is believed that the force will be the backbone of all war activities, such as munitions and foodstuffs production and transportation. It is expected that in order to enable the force to play such a part the deputy commander-in-chief as well as the deputy commanders in the prefectures will be personages possessing national popularity. Much is expected in this regard, with expectations that through this will be brought about the concentration of all national power based on the general will of the people.

JAPANESE FORCES TAKE MONTALBAN ON LUZON

Huge Explosions in Enemy Ammunition Dumps Caused At Mariquina

By I. IWAMOTO
Of the Military Press Corps

LUZON FRONT, April 2.—Japanese right wing forces east of Manila continuing their cyclonic forward drive followed up their capture on March 23 of strategic San Mateo by seizing San Isidro, south of Montalban, on March 25. Close quarter combat units striking out from the captured stronghold caused huge explosions in ammunition dumps at Mariquina at about 2 p.m. on the same day.

Meanwhile, all enemy attacks on the Luzon front were repulsed by other Japanese units. Fighting with furor against a powerful enemy force supported by eight cannons at Los Banos on the south shore of Lake Laguna, men of the Fujishige Unit on the two days of March 25 and 26 killed and wounded 369 Americans and 73 guerrillas besides destroying six M-4 tanks, four trucks and one bivouac. After being repulsed the enemy made another futile attempt against the Japanese by crossing the Laguna on landing barges but was repulsed with the loss of three barges.

In the region of the Saracsac Pass, Japanese counterthrusts carried out since March 23 in coordination with the action on the southern front continued to develop in fury. All enemy forces south and north of the pass were repulsed and remnants are being mopped up.

Enemy troops attempting to seep into Imugan to the east of the pass, were also struck hard and forced to flee. No signs of further enemy attacks are noticed, but the Japanese are maintaining strict watch.

The enemy in the sector seven kilometers south of Balete Pass began a gradual forward movement on March 26 under cover of aircraft. Japanese artillery units positioned in the heights subjected the enemy to concentric shelling, which a close quarter combat unit dispatched against the enemy on that night killed and wounded 225 enemy troops. A part of the enemy force began to infiltrate a sector northward on the way to the pass but was repulsed southward by Japanese blows.

A close quarter combat force sent by the Okayama Unit against the sector northwest of Carangilan, enemy base in this region, on March 24 caused violent confusion in the area by demolishing three 15 centimeter guns, three trench mortars, one rapid-fire cannon and four bivouacs. Another similar Japanese force on the same night assaulted a road construction unit north of Carangilan and demolished equipment, including a bulldozer. Attacks are being continued.

Enemy Hit Hard

Domei

PHILIPPINE BASE, April 2.—Although the Japanese Garrison at Cebu on March 28 inflicted considerable losses on the enemy troops invading the airfield by A-A gun and trench mortar attacks, about 500 enemy infantry troops led by 10 tanks advanced to the northern section of Cebu City toward evening of the same day. On the afternoon of March 30 enemy troops in this area resumed their attacks simultaneously with concentric field gun and trench mortar bombardment and the Japanese are severely counterattacking the enemy.

Enemy Hideouts Blasted

Domei

PHILIPPINE BASE, April 2.—Japanese Air Units made a surprise attack on enemy guerrilla hideouts in the southern section of Mindanao Island today. Considerable damage was inflicted by Japanese strafing actions on the enemy.

AXIS CITIZENS REGISTERED

New Argentine Decree Affects All Germans, Japanese

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 2.—The Argentine Government decreed today that all Germans and Japanese living in Argentina must register as enemy aliens, put their funds and capital under Government control, and must hand over to the authorities all firearms, explosives and radio materials, according to a report from Buenos Aires reaching here. The decree said that the Axis nationals who have adopted Argentine or any United Nations citizenship would be included in separate registers, the report disclosed.

Under the decree all Axis citizens will be called "aliens under surveillance," will be given special identification papers, will report to the police every 30 days, and will not be permitted to leave the country without special permission, the report concluded.

Enemy Sea Losses Off Southwest Isles Grow to Huge Total

The composite war results obtained by the Japanese Air and Surface Units in their sea battles with the enemy task forces in the Southwestern Islands area now total 177 warships, either sunk or damaged.

	Sunk	Dam.	Sunk or Damaged	Tot.
Aircraft carrier	3	2	2	7
Converted Carrier	1	0	1	2
Battleship	3	1	2	6
Large Type Warcraft	5	0	16	21
Battleship or Cruiser	0	1	12	13
Battleship or Transport	1	0	0	1
Cruiser	22	0	4	26
Cruiser or destroyer	1	0	0	1
Cruiser or Transport	0	0	1	1
Destroyer	16	0	12	28
Transport	3	0	11	14
Landing transport	16	0	0	16
Warship of unidentified Category	24	0	15	39
Mine-sweeper	1	0	0	1
Oil tanker	0	0	1	1
Grand Total	96	4	77	177

EIGHT P-51 FIGHTERS HIT IN RAID ON SHANGHAI AREA

11 Others Shot Down or Damaged Over Hahajima and Chichijima

Domei

SHANGHAI, April 2.—Japanese Anti-Air Raid Units shot down four enemy planes and damaged four others when more than a dozen P-51 fighters raided the Shanghai area at 10:20 a.m. today.

Enemy Planes Blasted

Domei

CENTRAL PACIFIC BASE, April 2.—Chichijima was raided by more than 10 P-51's in daylight on March 31 but the Japanese Units downed one of these invading planes. Hahajima was also subjected to attacks by 51 P-51's of which 10 were either damaged or downed.

Keelung Attacked

Domei

TAIWAN BASE, April 2.—About 30 B-24's and P-38's raided the military establishments, ships and city areas in Keelung and Takao at 10 a.m. on March 31 but only slight damage was done. At 10 a.m. yesterday, formations of 40 B-24's and 30 P-51's and P-38's again bombed the military installations at Takao, Giran and Karenko and fled southward at 3 p.m. Slight damage was caused by the raid.

UPPER HOUSE MEMBERS OF CHOSEN, TAIWAN SET

Information Board Reveals Names of Ten Appointees At 11 A.M. on Tuesday

The names of the seven new members of the House of Peers representing Chosen and three others from Taiwan were announced by the Board of Information at 11 a.m. on Tuesday.

They are Juyo Bokutada, Soryu Kan, Chiko Ito, Soshun Hozawa, Akira Kaneda, Count Shoken Noda and Viscount Kiyo Ri all representing Chosen; Takejiro Midorino, Kendo Hayashi and Hei Kyo of Taiwan.

The participation in government of these 10 personages of outstanding ability and caliber who enjoy the full confidence of the people they represent is expected to further enhance the patriotism of the Chosense and Taiwanese and to consolidate the all-nation structure for the successful prosecution of the current war.

These new members of the Upper House have made valuable contributions to the Japanese administration of the two territories ever since its beginning and especially since the outbreak of the war, have exerted remarkable efforts to convert the spiritual and material potentialities of the Chosenese and Taiwanese people into Japan's war power. They all deserve the appointments to Upper House membership for the full confidence they enjoy from the people and for their outstanding personality.

The seven Chosenese Peers include an adviser to the Chosenese Privy Council, Vice-Chairman and three Taiwanese representatives are all members of the Council of Taiwan.

31 MORE WARCRAFT ARE SUNK, DAMAGED IN OKINAWA BATTLE

Imperial Garrison Forces Continuing Furious Engagement With Enemy, Says I.H.Q.

Ceaselessly attacking the U.S. warships around the main Okinawa island, Japanese Air Forces again obtained additional brilliant war results by sinking or damaging 31 hostile warcraft including two converted aircraft carriers, 13 battleships or large warships, eight cruisers, one destroyer, three transports, one cruiser or transport, one battleship or cruiser, and two warships of unidentified category.

Japanese Garrison Forces on the main Okinawa island are continuing to engage in a fierce counterattacking battle in the vicinity of the enemy landing points.

As to the newly obtained war results and the war situation on Okinawa, the Imperial Headquarters issued the following communique at 3 p.m. on Tuesday:

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
3 p.m., April 3

"1. The Garrison Forces on the main Okinawa island are continuing to engage in a vigorous counter-attacking battle in the neighborhood of the enemy's landing points.

"2. Our Air Forces are furiously attacking the enemy warcraft around the main island.

"War results that have become known later follow:

Sunk:
- 1 converted aircraft carrier
- 1 battleship
- 1 battleship or transport
- 6 cruisers
- 1 destroyer
- 1 transport
- 2 warships of unidentified category

Damaged:
- 1 converted aircraft carrier
- 11 large warcraft including battleships
- 2 cruisers
- 1 cruiser or transport
- 2 transports
- 1 battleship or cruiser

Okinawa Invaders Hit

Imperial Japanese Forces on the main Okinawa island are now engaged in a grim counteroffensive battle with the U.S. invasion forces about two divisions in strength, which landed on a 12-kilometer line between the vicinity of Kitadani, 12 kilometers north of Naha, and the neighborhood of Cape Zampa at 10 a.m. on April 1.

As announced by the Imperial Headquarters on Monday, the enemy landing forces are attempting to reinforce their strength.

According to enemy reports, more than 1,400 enemy war vessels are being used for the landing operations in the Southwestern Island area.

In cooperation with the severe counteroffensive launched by the Japanese on the main island of Okinawa, Imperial Japanese Air and Sea Forces are also attacking the American forces in deathdefying action.

The American warcraft that have already been sunk and damaged in Japanese attacks total 177. Besides this, the enemy has suffered other losses which, however, have not yet been confirmed.

Denied Life Insurance

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 2.—Approximately 20,000 American servicemen overseas are reported to have been denied Government life insurance policies because of their physical condition. Representative Philbin of Massachusetts asserted today, according to a Washington dispatch.

He said, "It is a shame that any boy who is risking his life and limbs fighting for his country should be denied insurance coverage especially when he has served under fire and has been rated physically fit for duty."

Enemy's Reports Blasted

Domei

BERLIN, March 29.—The Anglo-American front reports stating that the area around Wuerzburg and Nuremberg respectively had been reached were termed by the German military spokesman at the Wilhelmstrasse as reports intended to spread confusion and panic. The spokesman emphasized that these reports were false.

Nippon Times

Published by The Nippon Times, Ltd.

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BRANCH OFFICES:
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KOBE: 65, Naniwa-machi, Kobe-ku. Tel. Sannomiya 3970-7.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
One month, ¥6.00; six months, ¥35.00; one year, ¥68.00. Postage free to all parts of the Japanese Empire, Manchoukuo, China and the Southern Regions. For foreign countries, postage ¥1.50 per month extra. All subscriptions are payable in advance.

Publisher and Printer:
SHOICHI KAWAMURA

TOKYO, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 1945

A Power Politics Comedy

The events—the appointment by the Soviet Union of Ambassador Andrei Gromkyo as chief of the Soviet delegation to the United Nations Conference at San Francisco as well as the announcement of the intention of the United States and the Soviet Union to demand three votes each in the assembly of the proposed international security organization—promise to turn the coming San Francisco parley into a power politics comedy.

The refusal of the Soviet Union to send Foreign Commissar Vyacheslav Molotov when the Anglo-American countries are to be represented by their Foreign Secretaries not only robs this Golden Gate Conference of its much-ballyhooed significance but also makes ridiculous the actions of the Anglo-American countries in advertising this meeting as an epochal event of the century. As this action attests, the authorities of the Kremlin are perfectly aware of the fact that the projected international peace organization is primarily intended to maintain an Anglo-American peace and that it is unequivocally directed against the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union obviously has no permanent advantage to gain by participating in such a conference, hence her appointment of a mere Ambassador to the coming San Francisco meeting as a mere concession to expediency for the sake of keeping up the myth of Anglo-American-Soviet unity for the duration of the war.

But more than the appointment of Gromkyo, the secret arrangement apparently reached by the Big Three at Yalta to provide three votes each to the United States and the Soviet Union in the assembly of the prospective league is certain to convert this supposedly dignified and awesome gathering into a noisy, boisterous meeting of self-seeking, vote-grabbing small and big nations. Already a tumultous opposition has been raised by the smaller nations against this secret understanding of the Big Three. A foreign dispatch on March 30 disclosed that the smaller nations were already mapping out their strategy to be taken at the San Francisco meeting to combat the American-Soviet proposal. One spokesman of the small governments predicted that this proposal would be sure to stir up "a major controversy" at the San Francisco meeting and that its discussion would overshadow the issue of voting procedure of the Big Powers in the executive council.

The bitter opposition of these lesser nations to the latest arbitrary arrangement of the Big Three is but natural. For them to accede to such a proposal would be to give the Big Three domination of the entire machinery of the proposed international peace organization. There is no justice whatever in the agreement arrived at by the Big Three at the Yalta meeting. Such an arrangement completely destroys the fiction of equal voting power in the assembly and violates the principle of sovereign equality of all nations. Moreover, not only is it unfair to these smaller Powers but it obviously discriminates against France and Chungking which are entitled to only one vote each in the assembly under the present Dumbarton Oaks plan despite the fiction that they are included among the Big Powers.

This Yalta compact may, indeed, throw the San Francisco Conference wide open to acrimonious verbal exchanges among the big and small nations as well as bring out to the surface the consciously-suppressed jealousies and suspicions of the Big Three. That the United States at the Yalta Conference was not willing to agree to let the Soviet Union have three votes unless she herself also obtained the same number of votes itself attests to the strong undercurrent of rivalry between these two Powers. Indeed, this action of the United States shows that she is determined at whatever cost not to let the Soviet Union gain a predominant position in the prospective peace machinery. As it already is, the Anglo-American countries enjoy in the executive council, in matters requiring a majority vote, a superior position over the Soviet Union. This position of the Anglo-American countries may be further strengthened if sufficient support is gained by them to include Brazil in the executive council as a permanent member.

In the general assembly, too, the Anglo-American countries have a far greater voice than the Soviet Union. The Anglo-American countries control not only the votes of twenty Latin American nations but also the five votes of the British Dominions. Together their votes would equal twenty-seven. If the United States were to acquire three more votes for her possessions in accordance with this Yalta agreement, the Anglo-American countries which are likely to band together in any issue involving the Soviet Union would be in a position to muster a total of thirty votes, not to mention the votes of other Anglo-American satellites in the general assembly.

It is difficult in the light of these facts why the Soviet Union should have demanded only three votes in the general assembly. Colonel Robert McCormick, editor and publisher of the Chicago Tribune, thinks, however, that this secret Yalta agreement would give the Soviet Union in the postwar peace league a total of eight votes, including the five votes of Poland, Rumania, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Finland. But could the Soviet Union's proposal for the inclusion of the Ukrainian Soviet Republic and the White Russian Soviet Republic in the general assembly be a signal for the fourteen other Soviet Republics to demand a similar right of representation in the proposed peace body? In such an eventuality, the Soviet Union would have a total of twenty-two votes in the general assembly.

These power-grabbing policies of the Big Three constitute definite proof that the major Powers are not inwardly interested in establishing true universal peace but only in the selfish advancement of their national ambitions. What President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill are scheming is to make this peace league into a plaything of the Anglo-American Powers and to foist their brand of peace on the world in the name of this organization. It is for this reason apparently that the Soviet Union is taking no more than lukewarm interest in the projected peace body, although she would not be so averse to taking active participation in it if it could be manipulated to serve her own interest.

A Year Ago Today

April 4, 1944

Prime Minister Winston Churchill announced that Britain lost 667,159 officers and men during the first four years of the war. He gave the following figures: 158,741 dead, 78,204 missing, 159,219 wounded, and 270,995 taken as prisoners.

• • •

San Salvador, the capital of Salvador, has fallen into the hands of the Revolutionary Army, according to information received from Nicaragua giving a follow-up of yesterday's coup d'etat on the ousting of President General Maximilliano H. Martinez from office. The report says that owing to the power generating stations of the capital having been destroyed by the revolutionists, the city is in utter darkness.

• • •

During the early afternoon hours fierce aerial combats developed over Rumanian territory between Reich-Rumanian fighter planes and American bombers operating under a strong fighter screen. Enemy formations also encountered concentrated gunfire which was intensified in the vicinity of the Rumanian capital.

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The Argentine Government further tightened its already strict censorship of all news by ordering radio broadcasting stations in Argentina to subscribe to the State-controlled Andi News Agency, it is reported from Buenos Aires. The order states that the radio stations must pay 10 per cent of their gross income for this news service. Stations failing to subscribe to the Andi will have their licences cancelled.

News and Views

Cold Realization in Pacific

If Washington's notoriously belated admission of the losses involved in the Pearl Harbor debacle can be any indication, the American public will have to wait for years before it has any sound picture of what the sanguinary battle of Yiojima has cost the United States.

The United States Government, in its official announcements on the battle of Yiojima, clearly showed that it still persisted in its favorite technique of "piece meal" admission in letting the American people know about the combat losses sustained in the Pacific operations. The personnel losses, for example, that the United States invasion force sustained during the Yiojima campaign, as officially admitted by the Washington authorities, were less than one-third of what is definitely known to our side to have been the actual enemy losses in combat personnel.

The tremendous sacrifices which the enemy was forced to pay for the conquest of Yiojima, however, appears to have convinced Washington of the necessity of bringing about a drastic change, if not a complete about-face, in its policy vis-a-vis the American public on the military situation in the Pacific theater of war.

It is now apparent that Washington officials in charge of war propaganda for home consumption have decided to discard their old line of policy of giving the inquisitive public a rather rosy picture of the whole Pacific War.

King Warns Public

Worthy of note in this connection is the annual report recently made public by Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Fleet and Chief of Naval Operations. While Admiral King has not forgotten to include in the report many bombastic claims of what has been achieved in the Pacific during the past year, it should be noted that this report contains serious warnings directed to the American public with reference to the future course of war in the Pacific.

Admiral King warned: "A quick and easy Pacific victory cannot be taken for granted, even after the European War is over." While claiming that "the battle of the Pacific has been carried more than 3,000 miles to the west . . . and to the Tokyo approaches," he frankly pointed out, apparently by way of a warning to the public as to what is to be expected in the Pacific theater of war in the days to come, that "we are now only gaining a position from which we can assault the heart of the Japanese strength."

Indeed, the American public, now impatient to see an early end in the bloody struggle in the Pacific, has been warned by none other than Admiral King himself that "the Pacific War is still in the 'crossing the ocean' phase."

Another point to indicate an obvious change of mind on the part of Washington officials in their home-consumption propaganda policy is the fact that they permitted the American papers to carry news stories from their war correspondents on the Pacific fronts who almost unanimously stressed the bitterness and bloodiness of the war in the Pacific.

A cursory survey of these American war correspondents' frontline dispatches clearly shows that their emphasis is preponderously on the costliness and tremendous sacrifices that the American invasion forces have been forced to pay, especially in human lives, in the Pacific theater of war. This is in striking contrast to news stories filed by American war correspondents about the Pacific War in the past months, and particularly so with their frontline dispatches about the Yiojima campaign.

Tough Going Ahead

This rather sudden change in Washington's propaganda policy vis-a-vis the American public regarding the war in the Pacific may be interpreted in a number of ways. An obvious inference, however, from such a change in the enemy's home propaganda policy must be the cold and bitter realization on the part of the war leaders that the United States' basic strategy of absolute reliance on its material strength, which, it must be admitted, has been a major factor for the enemy's military successes in the past months, will no longer be a safeguard against a tough going for the American forces in the last and most decisive phase of war in the Pacific.

In other words, the heroic stand put up by our gallant defenders of Yiojima must have given those enemy commanders as well as the war leaders a bitter lesson that more material strength and numerical superiority cannot be a major factor in winning the decisive victory in such a war as is now raging in the Pacific.

They have apparently come to realize that their most dreaded sacrifice in human lives, coupled with heroic efforts on the part of the public in general, is the only road to victory, if it ever is to be won.

It must be pointed out, however, that what the Yiojima campaign taught the American invaders is but "Lesson One" in the real battle of decision in the war against Japan that is now only beginning. Present indications—terrible punishments, to name only one, being meted out to the American invasion forces in the Okinawa Islands sector—already strongly point to the possibility that it would be too late when the war mongering leaders in Washington have come to realize what they are up against in this war of the Pacific.

FINANCIAL, ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN 'LIBERATED' EUROPE

Anglo-U.S. Forces Use 'Phony' Military Scrip in Occupied Areas—Food and Fuel Shortages Serious

By BUNZO KUBO
Director of Foreign Department
Of Finance Ministry

I

Although the Anglo-Americans profess that it is their aim to "liberate" the "oppressed nations" and to "emancipate" them from "starvation," the actual conditions of the European nations after the Anglo-American invasion are such that wherever the American British force advance the political condition invariably becomes chaotic, prices of commodities leap up, food supplies become scarce, morality disappears, and "freedom from want becomes freedom to starve."

It has been the policy of the Anglo-American forces from the beginning to use, as a rule, the various nations' own money as the circulating currency of the occupied forces, but upon landing in Italy they immediately cut down the exchange rate of the Lira by 83 per cent, thus subjecting the Italian people through the forced circulation of their war notes. Upon landing in Northern France, too, they immediately adopted the "invasion franc" for which the United States did not assume responsibility, and, as the result of the expose of this fact, a controversy has risen with the De Gaullist regarding its issuance and redemption.

The exchange rate of the currency of the occupied areas in relation to the British Pound has been cut down as follows: Italian Lira, 83 per cent; Belgian Franc 30 per cent; Dutch Guilder, 20 per cent; and French Franc, 12 per cent. On top of this, a 12 per cent devaluation of the German Reichsmark is being contemplated.

Southern Italy: When the Anglo-American forces landed on Sicily Island and on the coast of Southern Italy last July they quickly made a drastic reduction on the exchange value of the Lira in relation to the Dollar and the Pound. The prewar exchange rate of $1.00=19.001 Lire and £1. 6532 Lire was brought down to £1=$4.00=400 Lire. The total war notes already issued by Anglo-American forces in Italy reached a staggering sum of ¥7,500,000,000 Lire.

Redemption Not Specified

All war notes issued by the Anglo-American forces were labelled "Issued in Italy" but the responsibility for their redemption was not specified. As Italy demanded a loan from America and Britain to counterbalance her share of the occupation expenses against these war notes, it is said that Roosevelt recently consented to redeem these war notes by offsetting the dollar loan against Italian account. However, despite this juggling in the accounting procedure, there can be no change in the fact that the Italians will have to assume responsibility for these war notes.

France: At the time of the invasion of France, the Anglo-American forces issued the so-called "Invasion Franc" scrips which were originally printed by the United States Printing Office and the reverse side of which said "Issued in France, 1944." These war notes had eight denominations, the lowest being 2 Francs and the highest 5,000 Francs and they were issued to the amount of 82,000,000,000 Francs. Later a controversy arose between Anglo-American forces and the De Gaullist regime regarding the right of issuance and the responsibility for their redemption. As a result, the following compromise was effected:

1. The De Gaullist regime shall have the power to issue the circulating currency.
2. The De Gaullist regime shall assume responsibility for the currency already issued by the Anglo-American forces since their landing, and when the new currency is issued the regime shall recognize the inter-exchange of all these currencies now in circulation.
3. The total amount of war notes already issued by the Anglo-American forces and the future expenses to be paid to the occupation forces shall be borne by the American and British governments.

The exchange rate between the Franc-Dollar-Pound as agreed upon at Algiers between Britain and France in February last year was adopted in toto and the basic rate of $1.00=200 Francs was officially fixed, but this new rate in comparison to the prewar rate is a 12 per cent reduction against the Pound and an 8 per cent reduction against the Dollar.

Belgium: When the Anglo-American forces advanced into Belgium, it was agreed that the refugee Belgian regime should offer the necessary circulating medium, and accordingly that government offered to the invasion forces the old currency which she carried to London at the time of the German invasion, the new currency which was printed later in London and also coins minted in the United States. All expenses which were incurred by the Anglo-American forces and paid in Belgian currency were converted into American Dollars and entered in the books accordingly.

The exchange rate between the Belgian Franc, the American Dollar and the British Pound was set as follows: U.S. $1.00=43.773 Belgian Francs, and British £1.=176.625 Belgian Francs. But this new exchange rate is nearly the same as the wartime exchange rate between the Belgian Congo Franc rate of £1.=176.6 Francs which, compared to the pre-war rate of £1=123 Francs is a reduction in the value of the Franc by 30 per cent.

The Netherlands: At the time of the Anglo-American invasion, the circulating medium of the Netherlands was not prepared by the refugee Dutch regime, and as the Anglo-Americans were unable to assume speedily military control complete of the Netherlands, as in the case of Belgium, the Dutch currency was not available and the French Franc and Belgian Franc currency was used temporarily. Later under the responsibility of the refugee Dutch regime the Guilder was put into circulation and the exchange rate was determined as £1. 10.691 Guilders. Compared to the pre-agreement exchange rate of £1. 7.60 Guilders it is a reduction of 29 per cent and to the pre-war rate of £1. 8.70 Guilders, a lowering of 19 per cent.

In Luxemburg the Anglo-American forces used Belgian and French currencies for a short time after their occupation but recently it is reported that the Luxemburg Franc has made its appearance.

Inflation Threatens

The Anglo-American forces, realizing the inevitable inflation in the occupied areas due to the abnormal increase of the military expenditures, are passing the responsibility for the economic distress in these countries to the "liberated" peoples. In France, for example, they limited the monthly salary of the Anglo-American forces and the other military forces under them to 200 Francs.

However, in addition to defraying the expenses of over 2,500,000 Anglo-American troops the national economy of various nations has been completely ruined due to the devastating military campaigns, and the people's economic livelihood has reached a state of chaos due also to the political unrest which has followed in the wake of the anti-Axis invasion. It is only natural that under the circumstances the ruinous inflation should have corroded the very root of the economy of these nations. Greece has already become a victim of catastrophic inflation, paralleling in magnitude that of Germany just after the World War I, and Southern Italy and France too, are showing a similar tendency.

Southern Italy: It is reported that the total amount of currency now in circulation in Southern Italy amounts to 260,000,000,000 Liras and it seems that this amount is about three times the original amount in circulation before the landing of the Anglo-American forces about a year ago.

In glancing at the prevailing commodity prices, we discover that the price of meat has jumped up to four times the pre-war level and that macaroni is now 110 times the pre-war price.

France: It is asserted that the total amount of French bank notes now in circulation amounts approximately to 600,000,000,000 Francs, and inasmuch as the total circulation at the end of 1941 was 270,000,000,000 Francs, we can safely say that under Germany's occupation the circulation of notes did not expand so rapidly.

But with the landing of the Anglo-American forces the sudden drop in the value of the Franc and the exhorbitant rise in the prices of commodities became intense, and accordingly the scale of wages jumped up 50 per cent while the black market quotation of one British Pound jumped up to 300 Francs as compared to the government-fixed rate of 200 Francs.

Greece: Greece has been plagued by abnormal inflation. The enflationary tendency has become particularly acute since the landing of the British forces last September, and the total currency of 21,000,000,000 Drachmas in circulation during Germany's occupation has recently increased to 300,000,000,000,000,000 Drachmas. Consequently, the people lost confidence in the purchasing value of the circulating currency and the barter system has become overwhelmingly fashionable. The ridiculous price of 5,000,000 Drachmas for only 3 cigarettes will give some idea of the inflated prices of commodities.

Recently the Greek Government, with the aid of Britain and backed up by a 100 per cent gold reserve plus foreign securities, has issued a new Drachmas currency, the value of which was fixed at £1—600 new Drachmas and one new Drachma—50,000,000,000 Drachmas. In spite of this, the political status of the Greek Government is still very shaky and even with the 100 per cent gold backing it is problematical as to how this currency readjustment effort will succeed and restore the people's confidence in the Government. The results can only be left to the imagination.

(To Be Continued)

PHILOSOPHY OF PLEASURE ON BOOKS

No Pleasure Is Fit Substitute for Reading

The pleasure to be found in reading books is profound, wrote Kaibara Ekken one of Japan's most renowned philosophers. Books, he said, make the heart calm and tranquil, even though they may be far removed from either mountains or trees. In the Way of Contentment, this noted philosopher wrote that no pleasure was a fit substitute for the pleasure to be derived from reading. In an essay on this subject in 1710 at the ripe old age of 81 he wrote:

Books enable one to become familiar with the laws of Nature (literally: to acquaint oneself with the positive and negative laws of Heaven and Earth). They recall the days of the remotest past, enabling us to roam freely over the entire world. Great is the power of books!

The books that give us the greatest pleasure are those of the Sages; next to them come books of history.

"The man who is not well versed in the history of ancient and modern times," said Kamtishi, "is but an animal clothed in man's robe." The hearts of those whose knowledge is limited only to the present and things around them are narrow and dark. They are like that of a man who has never been awakened from sleep. Unfortunate are they who know not the pleasure of books.

Those who read books concerning both ancient and modern times have broad minds and their understandings are clear.

Whenever we, who are wedded to the pursuit of learning, open a book, a great happiness wells in our hearts—this happiness is the gift of Heaven. As a rule, flowers which have many beautiful petals bear no fruit; consequently, learned men seldom leave behind them any wealth. Heaven sends poverty to men of learning, in order to make their genius (in original "jewel") shine; therefore let them not seek after riches.

To possess clear windows, a clear table, a good writing-brush, ink-slab and ink-stick, in addition to a light to burn, is one of the great joys of life; as Soroba said, there are many poor students who cannot afford to get these materials. In the olden days there were men who read by the light of the snow and even by the glow of fireflies.

In making the books of the Sages your teachers, brush, ink, paper and ink-slab your friends, you will receive great happiness and much benefit. The light, also, is a treasure greatly to be prized.

In the reading of books, don't grudge time; nevertheless the hot, moonday hours are not suitable, and reading then will profit you but little. The quiet hours of night afford the best opportunity in which to think and enjoy the ancient writings.

Ballads Were Recited

To sing or recite the old songs and poems of both our country, Yamato, and China, according to the different sceneries and different seasons—is to give oneself much joy. Doing this is much to be preferred to composing poems ourselves. Even the most gifted poets of the olden days expressed their sentiments before their guests, not by their own verses, but by reciting the ballads of an older age again. This example should be followed. We may fancy our own verses good; but others will think them ridiculous. Let the specially-gifted compose poems; for us such labor is best left alone.

Most things cannot be enjoyed without friends—but reading can. While sitting alone in our rooms we may traverse the entire world, understanding the reason for thousands of things. Living in this age, we can discourse with those lived thousands of years ago. Unworthy as we are, we can become the friends of the Sages. These pleasures, books only can bestow upon us. Those who cannot enjoy them are poor men indeed; those who most enjoy them obtain the most happiness.

In thinking over the lives of men, we find that those who live to a great age are few indeed. Many men die before the age of forty, while the death of a man over fifty cannot be considered untimely. A man who has lived for sixty years may be said to have enjoyed a moderately long life. Men of seventy are called Koki, meaning "Rare."

Little to be wondered then that many who have been our friends since we were boys, and whose memories with us are still green, are now dead, and—alas! unlike the flowers with spring, do not return.

Thinking of these friends who have gone, let us be thankful for long life, and not deplore our grey hairs.

In this world some are rich and poor, though both alike are men. A pine tree grows to a great height, while a creeper only rises a few inches above the ground. Again, while a pine tree lives for hundreds of years, a violet blooms but for one day. The differences in their longevity are great; yet such is their individual lot. It is the nature of the pine to live long and to grow to a great height, while it is the nature of the others to crawl along the ground and wither quickly. Similarly, the lots of men are not the same: some are born to be rich, some are born to be poor; some are destined to live long, others to die young—let each be content with his lot. Let the rich spend his life in doing good and kindly acts, the poor, his, in being content.

While living in this world one sometimes does not realize what a happy place it is. The rich man fails to appreciate the pure happiness it is his to obtain in doing good. The one who is always healthy does not realize the blessing of health, resembling a dreamer who does not know he is asleep.

"There are three happinesses," said Eikeiki: "The first of these is to receive life as a human being; the second to be born a man; the third to enjoy long life." Besides these, men of the present day have a fourth—the joy of living in an enlightened age.

Neithe Talient nor Virtues

We have neither talent nor virtues, for we have not assisted our prince, nor helped the people. We have not cultivated a small patch of ground, nor planted a hemp seed; yet we have food, clothing, and also houses to protect us from the wind and rain—this is a great happiness. Some peasants, though they work day and night, suffer from a lack of all these things. Says an ancient proverb: "We have not enough if we look upward, but we have more than enough if we look downward." In primitive times, when men lived in caves, they had neither grain to eat nor cloth to wear, while furniture was unknown to them. Imagine their inconveniences and sufferings, and remember that we moderns, with so many things to make us comfortable, should be happy. Men who have risen from obscurity should look back on their times of hardship, and appreciate their present prosperity.

When one has grown old, and death, like the setting of the sun, is near, let him await his end calmly. It is written in the Book of Eki: "If we do not enjoy ourselves during the day, we shall have regret when the sun declines in the cradle of the west." Since it is natural for a man to grow old and die, it is but foolishness to grieve at the approach of death. Emmei said: "For a while I shall return to nothingness, yet, believing in Destiny, there is nothing to fear. If exhausted I must be, then let me be exhausted, why should I worry about many things?" Again, he said: "If a man lives the morning in benevolence and uprightness, what more can he want than that his death should take place in the evening?"

If one is not content with Destiny, and does not trust in the will of Heaven, then when the end approaches, great will be our grief. The end is important, let us then endeavor to uphold our principles until the last moment.

The more I think of it, the more I realize that there are many pleasures in this world. Yet if one does not know the path, he resents Heaven, finds fault with others, and his foolish heart strays into darkness. Man's body is neither gold nor stone, and consequently, it must perish. All who live must die, and none who die can renew their life on earth. Let us then enjoy our life while it lasts, for the years which are allotted to us are not many. From henceforth let every day of our lives be spent in happiness and joy. Our lives are well worth the living, provided we spend them in doing good, and in enjoying the true Path.

An old man says the same thing over and over again; I have repeated the same truth over and over again in order to help myself and warn others. Once more I shall repeat it: "Let us not fritter away our lives meaninglessly without enjoying them. If we heed the Path in the morning our existence is justified, and we may, then, die peacefully in the evening.

Unnerving

Doctor: "Have you told Mr. Brown that he's the father of twins?"

Nurse: "Not yet. He's shaving."

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